

**REMARKS:**

The Official Actions of April 30, 2008 and May 1, 2008 have been reviewed and this application has been amended as believed appropriate. Applicant thanks Examiner Chen for attention to the proposed amendments to the drawings and claims sent to her by fax on July 29, 2008 and for her courtesy in the telephone interview of August 8, 2008.

The new drawing figures submitted here and the correction to Fig. 1 are intended to address the objections to the drawings at page 2 of the outstanding Official Action. Also, the new, schematic Figures 2, 3 and 4 are intended to support the plurality of electrodes and belt-like carrier of the claims broadly with no addition of new matter. In addition, Figs. 3 and 4 support the electric shields of claims 7, 8 and 9. Fig. 1 has been amended to indicate the imperforate region of the electrode 5 by the numeral 5.1. The specification has been amended for conformity.

The claims now refer to "an area of contact" rather than a "measurement surface" as suggested by the examiner in the Official Action. This is because the latter term is not supported in the specification, but the contact area where the "contact medium" touches the measurement object is clear.

It is understood from the examiner's comments in the telephone interview of August 8, 2008 that the drawing objections and the rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112 are overcome by the amendments to the drawings and claims. Also claim 10 has been amended to depend from 6 in view of Examiner Chen's observations during the telephone interview referred to above.

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by the U.S. patent No. 3,580,239 of Watanabe. Claim 13 has been amended to more clearly set forth its distinction from the Watanabe patent. The claim clarifies that the "storage space" is on the opposite side of the measuring electrode from the area of contact at which the object is to be conducted by the contact medium. Watanabe does not teach this.

Again from attorney for applicant's telephone discussion with the examiner, it is understood that amended claim 13 will no longer be subject to the rejection of anticipation by the Watanabe patent but will be patentable over Watanabe. Examiner Chen did say that a further search would be conducted that could possibly develop additional prior art.

Early, favorable further examination and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Any questions or suggestions regarding the application or the amended claims submitted herewith should be directed to the undersigned attorneys for applicant at the telephone number listed below or by email to the email address listed below.

A one month extension of time in which to respond to the outstanding Official Action is requested in the accompanying Request for Extension and a check for the \$120.00 extension fee

is enclosed. Authorization is given to charge any additional fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 070135. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

**GALLAGHER & KENNEDY, P.A.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T D MacBlain', written in a cursive style.

Date: August 12, 2008

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**DRAWING AMENDMENTS:**

Please replace the present drawing with the accompanying replacement drawing sheet and the accompanying new drawing sheet.